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American Petroleum Institute
1220 L Street, Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20005

Monthly Completion Report

STATISTICS DEPARTMENT
Special Projects Section
(202) 682-8492/682-8518

Report Month: DECEMBER 1991

REPORT ON WELL COMPLETIONS IN THE UNITED STATES[1]

Wells actually completed in the current month may not be reported until several months later. The chart shown below illustrates the cumulative number of well completions for the current month and each of the eleven prior months, as now reported to the API. For comparison purposes, a corresponding curve describes the data, as then reported to the API, for the same twelve-month period a year ago.

These data are preliminary and subject to revision. The number of wells shown in the chart excludes stratigraphic and core tests and service wells. The geographic distribution for wells and footage is not published on a monthly basis, but is available from the API's "Quarterly Completion Report."

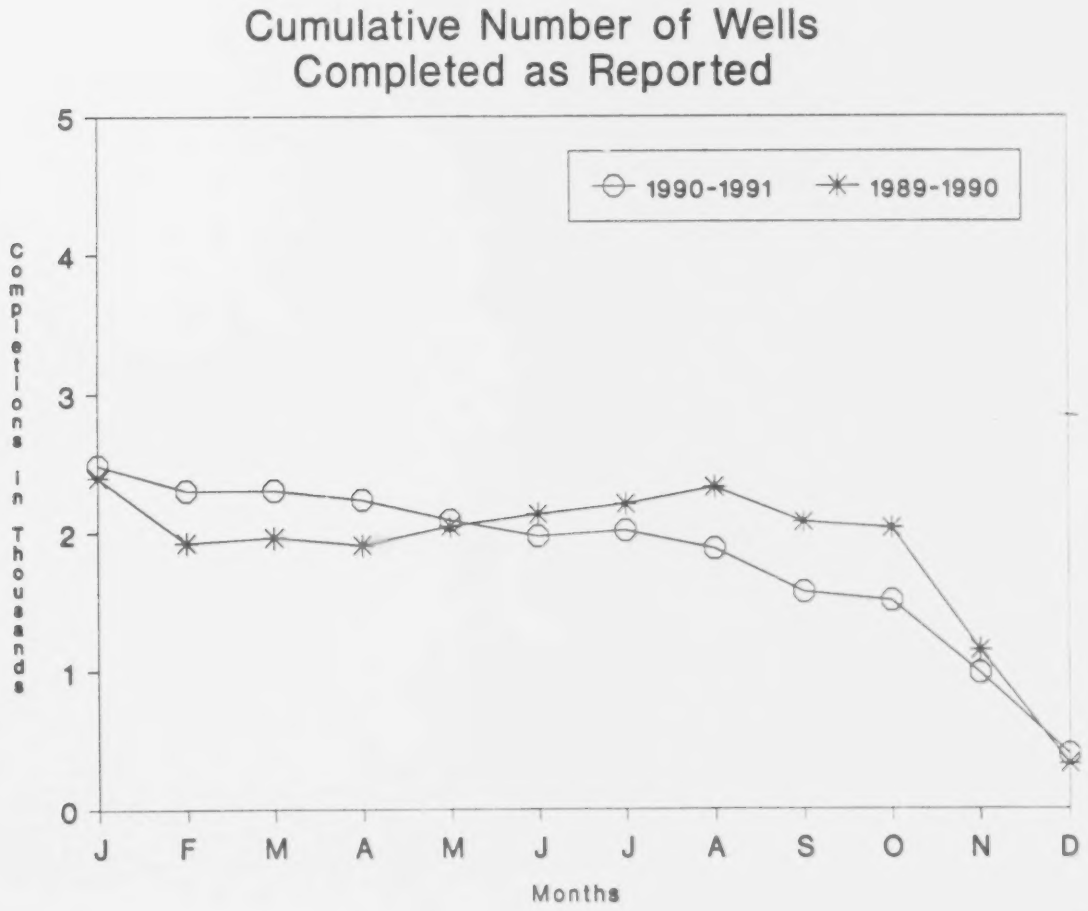

TABLE I: CUMULATIVE NUMBER OF TOTAL WELLS AND FOOTAGE DRILLED IN THE UNITED STATES BY COMPLETION MONTH AND YEAR, AS OF DECEMBER 27, 1991[1]

	OIL WELLS[2]		GAS WELLS[3]		DRY HOLES		TOTAL OIL & GAS & DRY HOLES		TOTAL ALL WELLS[4]	
	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE
TOTAL 1991	9,210	44,941,158	6,286	33,672,368	6,195	33,201,752	21,691	111,815,278	22,481	114,072,417
1991: DEC	117	584,700	46	241,501	227	1,220,355	390	2,046,556	416	2,111,701
NOV	367	1,860,547	197	1,328,897	411	2,072,598	975	5,262,042	1,013	5,352,773
OCT	596	2,962,274	387	2,256,141	516	2,752,568	1,499	7,970,983	1,529	8,083,690
SEP	619	3,028,370	453	2,443,931	490	2,640,939	1,562	8,113,240	1,597	8,273,826
AUG	779	3,812,022	544	2,999,257	553	2,948,372	1,876	9,759,651	1,929	9,928,536
JUL	780	3,779,036	632	3,367,717	598	3,107,727	2,010	10,254,480	2,099	10,538,397
JUN	786	3,785,772	654	3,534,536	531	2,847,289	1,971	10,167,597	2,048	10,383,202
MAY	901	4,326,590	616	3,196,531	569	2,817,015	2,086	10,340,136	2,174	10,531,419
APR	1,000	4,890,402	648	3,494,455	586	3,212,327	2,234	11,597,184	2,320	11,858,058
MAR	1,046	5,230,064	682	3,589,588	574	3,221,133	2,302	12,040,785	2,360	12,269,384
FEB	1,076	5,138,063	642	3,442,865	585	3,217,492	2,303	11,798,420	2,396	12,023,559
JAN	1,143	5,543,318	785	3,776,949	555	3,143,937	2,483	12,464,204	2,600	12,717,872
TOTAL 1990	11,543	52,159,369	9,663	50,109,316	7,999	42,061,881	29,205	144,330,566	29,991	146,496,346
1990: DEC	1,089	5,161,176	800	4,205,147	690	3,732,537	2,579	13,098,860	2,642	13,285,538
NOV	1,087	4,654,252	718	3,725,181	776	3,721,343	2,581	12,100,776	2,665	12,303,913
OCT	1,163	5,035,172	970	4,743,059	779	4,009,142	2,912	13,787,373	2,963	13,938,985
SEP	1,009	4,383,139	885	4,356,507	693	3,602,842	2,587	12,342,488	2,633	12,458,251
AUG	1,063	4,503,307	942	4,400,392	725	3,506,718	2,730	12,410,417	2,800	12,571,072
JUL	920	4,108,075	914	4,473,605	689	3,509,687	2,523	12,091,367	2,580	12,251,415
JUN	885	4,018,246	825	4,007,246	666	3,518,982	2,376	11,544,474	2,464	11,784,369
MAY	831	4,011,074	763	4,009,244	599	3,177,196	2,193	11,197,514	2,284	11,411,460
APR	833	3,840,002	633	3,511,652	593	3,375,078	2,059	10,726,732	2,124	10,887,796
MAR	848	4,034,072	678	4,000,389	568	3,012,000	2,094	11,046,461	2,150	11,223,701
FEB	830	3,800,803	695	3,972,720	523	2,957,109	2,048	10,730,632	2,096	10,901,404
JAN	985	4,610,051	840	4,704,174	698	3,939,247	2,523	13,253,472	2,590	13,478,442
TOTAL 1989	10,189	42,862,761	8,973	46,480,038	8,212	41,984,308	27,374	131,327,107	28,046	133,547,996
1989: DEC	939	4,090,559	822	4,571,493	742	3,992,033	2,503	12,654,085	2,553	12,808,225
NOV	923	3,859,228	825	4,364,114	740	3,847,773	2,488	12,071,115	2,560	12,317,323
OCT	942	3,969,877	861	4,280,864	815	3,997,466	2,618	12,248,207	2,673	12,459,652
SEP	847	3,682,434	828	4,083,828	744	3,821,773	2,419	11,588,035	2,450	11,707,977
AUG	971	3,717,609	859	4,343,691	721	3,672,597	2,551	11,733,897	2,641	11,987,209
JUL	869	3,388,441	786	3,968,389	700	3,470,499	2,355	10,827,329	2,419	11,038,114
JUN	829	3,683,158	714	3,434,007	688	3,470,166	2,231	10,587,331	2,288	10,739,778
MAY	875	3,557,721	624	3,205,430	662	3,194,582	2,161	9,957,733	2,211	10,108,481
APR	883	3,518,600	600	3,221,149	660	3,388,494	2,143	10,128,243	2,192	10,293,521
MAR	698	3,007,744	657	3,506,165	611	3,056,812	1,966	9,570,721	2,023	9,792,515
FEB	587	2,633,669	631	3,499,613	466	2,563,486	1,684	8,696,768	1,718	8,837,543
JAN	826	3,753,721	766	4,001,295	663	3,508,627	2,255	11,263,643	2,318	11,457,658
TOTAL 1988	13,368	57,379,992	8,288	43,993,294	10,039	52,204,023	31,695	153,577,309	32,713	156,600,132
TOTAL 1987	16,256	65,608,118	7,845	41,508,765	11,371	54,557,526	35,472	161,674,409	36,399	164,450,442

See footnotes on page 5.

TABLE II: CUMULATIVE NUMBER OF EXPLORATORY WELLS AND FOOTAGE DRILLED IN THE UNITED STATES BY COMPLETION MONTH AND YEAR, AS OF DECEMBER 27, 1991[1]

	OIL WELLS[2]		GAS WELLS[3]		DRY HOLES		TOTAL OIL & GAS & DRY HOLES	
	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE
TOTAL '991	475	3,028,650	349	2,369,505	2,776	16,102,483	3,600	21,500,638
1991: DEC	8	47,623	6	18,821	100	507,944	114	574,388
NOV	11	64,400	12	97,494	201	1,040,933	224	1,202,827
OCT	23	127,414	28	170,756	230	1,247,292	281	1,545,462
SEP	34	247,740	16	101,688	205	1,222,868	255	1,572,296
AUG	42	283,259	31	213,168	271	1,518,580	344	2,015,007
JUL	54	331,336	29	179,974	283	1,673,933	366	2,185,243
JUN	48	292,134	37	271,'98	232	1,392,896	317	1,956,228
MAY	38	231,439	33	252,307	238	1,320,304	309	1,804,050
APR	50	347,863	35	235,169	255	1,530,668	340	2,113,700
MAR	56	381,915	29	195,303	259	1,610,715	344	2,187,933
FEB	49	323,893	50	354,970	257	1,557,306	356	2,236,169
JAN	62	349,634	43	278,657	245	1,479,044	350	2,107,335
TOTAL 1990	630	4,186,399	617	4,178,585	3,705	21,268,989	4,952	29,633,973
'990: DEC	49	366,144	51	300,890	343	1,882,737	443	2,549,771
NOV	47	316,101	39	300,660	335	1,793,198	421	2,409,959
OCT	61	321,852	61	383,900	356	2,039,988	478	2,745,740
SEP	53	338,264	41	291,683	311	1,744,007	405	2,373,954
AUG	75	472,889	64	402,326	300	1,674,854	439	2,550,069
JUL	53	374,385	62	405,665	339	1,828,427	454	2,608,477
JUN	58	413,346	48	332,501	312	1,769,873	418	2,515,720
MAY	41	264,859	44	321,639	258	1,555,846	343	2,142,344
APR	59	392,769	55	385,698	287	1,805,200	401	2,583,667
MAR	50	352,598	53	381,522	260	1,493,519	363	2,227,639
FEB	35	235,034	43	307,344	240	1,508,133	318	2,050,511
JAN	49	338,158	56	364,757	364	2,173,207	469	2,876,122
TOTAL 1989	600	3,571,825	676	4,354,012	3,955	21,693,659	5,231	29,619,496
1989: DEC	48	304,600	63	397,003	376	2,043,393	487	2,744,996
NOV	50	291,300	61	367,499	374	2,149,815	485	2,808,614
OCT	38	226,951	53	319,109	396	2,158,500	487	2,704,560
SEP	71	407,639	57	315,257	359	2,004,478	487	2,727,374
AUG	56	285,287	60	432,185	325	1,872,257	441	2,589,729
JUL	50	301,847	51	356,373	323	1,886,543	424	2,544,763
JUN	44	250,093	59	366,785	323	1,668,193	426	2,285,071
MAY	40	266,642	48	323,186	318	1,626,811	406	2,216,639
APR	64	380,547	52	306,309	289	1,556,098	405	2,242,954
MAR	50	337,932	51	341,402	299	1,521,209	400	2,200,543
FEB	43	258,756	53	370,830	240	1,381,402	336	2,010,988
JAN	46	260,231	68	458,074	333	1,824,960	447	2,543,265
TOTAL 1988	813	4,925,226	698	4,701,848	4,752	26,916,450	6,263	36,543,524
TOTAL 1987	897	5,310,009	701	4,640,238	5,205	27,311,539	6,803	37,261,786

See footnotes on page 5.

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TABLE III: TOTAL NUMBER OF WELLS AND FOOTAGE ADDITIONS[1] BY COMPLETION MONTH AND YEAR REPORTED TO THE API DURING DECEMBER 1991

	OIL WELLS[2]		GAS WELLS[3]		DRY HOLES		TOTAL OIL & GAS AND DRY HOLES		TOTAL WELLS REPORTED[4] CURRENT MONTH	
	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE
TOTAL '991	781	3,139,306	584	3,204,469	558	2,901,951	1,923	9,245,726	2,009	9,421,045
1991: DEC	117	584,700	46	241,501	227	1,220,355	390	2,046,556	416	2,111,701
NOV	259	1,326,033	152	1,046,328	175	923,911	586	3,296,272	603	3,333,201
OCT	83	426,888	126	719,902	55	309,669	264	1,456,459	267	1,467,980
SEP	34	161,675	60	345,315	21	108,604	115	615,594	121	632,937
AUG	28	109,916	42	161,957	15	94,298	85	366,171	95	387,213
JUL	29	106,332	47	185,003	14	75,565	90	366,900	93	373,213
JUN	39	97,000	18	72,592	8	43,992	65	213,584	66	214,654
MAY	48	78,731	15	68,620	8	14,701	71	162,052	86	173,580
APR	50	62,777	19	70,663	7	34,663	76	168,103	79	171,131
MAR	32	50,647	12	63,134	7	22,209	51	135,990	51	135,990
FEB	37	71,265	19	86,390	10	20,881	66	178,536	68	179,936
JAN	25	63,342	28	143,064	11	33,103	64	239,509	64	239,509
TOTAL 1990	141	275,219	62	346,618	40	109,993	243	731,830	243	731,830
1990: DE	45	80,205	7	54,244	11	19,558	63	154,007	63	154,007
NOV	28	58,596	12	49,772	4	10,156	44	118,524	44	118,524
OCT	17	34,046	5	30,526	9	20,455	31	85,027	31	85,027
SEP	14	23,021	4	26,426	3	10,870	21	60,317	21	60,317
AUG	9	13,495	7	41,823	2	8,403	18	63,721	18	63,721
JUL	3	4,866	11	54,660	1	2,962	15	62,488	15	62,488
JUN	5	5,217	1	1,365	2	25,500	8	32,082	8	32,082
MAY	3	2,756	6	28,449	0	0	9	31,205	9	31,205
APR	8	19,324	2	6,496	0	0	10	25,820	10	25,820
MAR	4	20,447	2	15,142	4	4,277	10	39,866	10	39,866
FEB	3	10,311	3	22,536	3	3,752	9	36,599	9	36,599
JAN	2	2,935	2	15,179	1	4,060	5	22,174	5	22,174
TOTAL 1989	13	22,133	11	70,324	5	29,317	29	121,774	29	121,774
1989. DEC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NOV	3	5,769	1	17,500	0	0	4	23,269	4	23,269
OCT	2	7,336	1	5,641	0	0	3	12,977	3	12,977
SEP	0	0	3	25,657	1	4,990	4	30,647	4	30,647
AUG	1	880	4	9,666	2	15,886	7	26,432	7	26,432
JUL	4	2,948	2	11,860	1	3,056	7	17,864	7	17,864
JUN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MAY	3	5,200	0	0	1	5,385	4	10,585	4	10,585
APR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MAR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FEB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
JAN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL '988	1	1,075	1	927	3	14,670	5	16,672	5	16,672
YRS PRIOR TO 1988	22	71,812	6	29,465	5	19,585	33	120,862	35	130,322
TOTAL WELLS REPORTED[5]	958	3,509,545	664	3,651,803	611	3,075,516	2,233	10,236,864	2,321	10,421,643

See footnotes on page 5.

TABLE I AND TABLE II:

1. The cumulative number of wells reported in this table is the total number of wells included in the API database for each of the months and years shown, as of December 27, 1991. These data are preliminary and subject to further revisions.

2. Includes multiple completion wells which produce oil from at least one zone, but may produce gas from one or more zones. A multiple completion well is counted as one well.

3. Includes multiple completion wells which produce gas from all zones. A multiple completion well is counted as one well. Gas wells also include so-called condensate wells.

4. Includes stratigraphic and core tests and service wells. (Not applicable to Table II.)

TABLE III:

1. Total number of wells received by the API during the report month and classified by completion month and year. These wells are included in Tables I and II.

2. See footnote (2) above.

3. See footnote (3) above.

4. Includes stratigraphic and core tests and service wells.

5. Total wells reported are those received by the API for the report period November 30, 1991 through December 27, 1991. The sub-totals shown for each yearly period may not add up to the total wells reported for the period. Some wells, received during the report period, may have been completed in years prior to those shown in Table III.